



State Capitol | Lansing, Michigan 48913

PH (517) 373.7670 | FAX (517) 373.5958

[www.senate.michigan.gov/gop/senator/sanborn/](http://www.senate.michigan.gov/gop/senator/sanborn/)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
March 31, 2003

Contact: Tiffany Kimble  
(517) 373-7670

## National Attention for Michigan Bill

*Sanborn Appears on John Walsh Show to Discuss Senate Bill 118*

(LANSING) – State Senator Alan Sanborn, R-Richmond, recently taped an interview on the John Walsh Show discussing Senate Bill 118. The bill, introduced by Sanborn in January, would allow authorities to charge criminals with a felony for impersonating a police officer for the purpose of committing another crime.

“We are taught from early childhood to trust public safety officers and we often don’t think to question the credibility of a person wielding a badge, and that makes us more vulnerable to those who would use that trust to deceive us,” said Sanborn. “Impersonation is a method for abduction without resistance from the victim until it is too late – I think it is a serious crime, deserving of more serious punishment.”

Producers of the John Walsh Show came across Senator Sanborn’s legislation while researching a show that offers people information on what to do to avoid and protect themselves against police impersonators. Several of the shows guests had been or had a family member who had been victimized by someone posing as a police officer.

“I applaud Mr. Walsh for calling attention to the importance of this legislation,” Sanborn said. “I hope that legislators in other states will see the show and pass similar laws.”

SB 118 passed the Senate unanimously and awaits action in House committee.

(MORE)

The John Walsh Show airs Monday - Friday at 10:00 a.m. on NBC. Dates and times of this story's airing have yet to be determined due to coverage of the war in Iraq and will be announced at a later time.

**Editor's Note: A downloadable photograph of Senator Sanborn and John Walsh, as well as a photograph of Sheriff Hackel of Macomb County testifying in support of the bill before the Senate Judiciary Committee, are available at:**  
**<http://www.senate.michigan.gov/gop/photowire/Sanborn/Sanborn.htm>**

-- 30 --